generating (3) prediction errors in dependence on said second motion vectors (MV1, MV2, MV3, MV4) only; and

combining (VLC) said first motion vectors (MVc, MVl, MVr, MVa, MVb) and said prediction errors.

Claim 3. (as amended) A device for motion-compensated predictive image encoding, comprising:

means for estimating (ME) first motion vectors (MVc, MVl, MVr, MVa, MVb) for first objects (16*16);

means for filtering (MVPF) every occurrence of said first motion vectors (MVc, MVl, MVr, MVa, MVb) to obtain second motion vectors (MV1, MV2, MV3, MV4) for second objects (8*8), said second objects (8*8) being smaller than said first objects (16*16);

means for generating (3) prediction errors in dependence on said second motion vectors (MV1, MV2, MV3, MV4) only; and

means for combining (VLC) said first motion vectors (MVc, MVl, MVr, MVa, MVb) and said prediction errors.

Claim 4. (as amended) A method of motion-compensated predictive decoding, comprising the steps of:

generating (VLC^{-1}) first motion vectors (MVc, MVl, MVr, MVa, MVb) and prediction errors from an input bit-stream, said first motion vectors (MVc, MVl, MVr, MVa, MVb) relating to first objects (16*16) and said prediction errors related to second objects (8*8) only;

filtering (MVPF) every occurrence of said first motion vectors (MVc, MVl, MVr, MVa, MVb) to obtain second motion vectors (MV1, MV2, MV3, MV4) for said second objects (8*8), said second objects (8*8) being smaller than said

first objects (16*16); and

generating (15, MC) an output signal in dependence on said prediction errors and said second motion vectors (MV1, MV2, MV3, MV4).

Claim 6. (as amended) A device for motion-compensated predictive decoding, comprising:

means for generating (VLC^{-1}) first motion vectors (MVc, MVl, MVr, MVa, MVb) and prediction errors from an input bit-stream, said first motion vectors (MVc, MVl, MVr, MVa, MVb) relating to first objects (16*16) and said prediction errors related to second objects (8*8) only;

means for filtering (MVPF) every occurrence of said first motion vectors (MVc, MVl, MVr, MVa, MVb) to obtain second motion vectors (MV1, MV2, MV3, MV4) for said second objects (8*8), said second objects (8*8) being smaller than said first objects (16*16); and

means for generating (15, MC) an output signal in dependence on said prediction errors and said second motion vectors (MV1, MV2, MV3, MV4).

Claim 9. (as amended) A method for generating a motion-compensated predictively encoded image signal, comprising:

estimating motion vectors (MVc, MVl, MVr, MVa, MVb) relating to first objects (16*16); and generating prediction errors relating to every occurrence of second objects (8*8), said second objects (8*8) being smaller than said first objects (16*16), wherein said prediction errors depend on motion vectors for said second objects (8*8) only.